

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 97

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Rodriguez)
(Coauthors: Senators Hernandez and Leyva)

July 16, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 97—Relative to medicine.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 97, as introduced, Bonilla. Medical training: osteopathic students.

This measure would urge both private and public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal access to osteopathic and allopathic students to apply to training programs, would urge osteopathic medical schools, allopathic medical schools, and their training institutions to build on current successes of working toward greater collaboration and coordination of education and training for California's future physicians, and would urge efforts by training institutions and allopathic and osteopathic medical schools to work toward greater acceptance and integration of osteopathic and allopathic students.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California has a significant shortage and inequitable
- 2 distribution of physicians throughout the state due to the aging
- 3 population, current population growth, and the increasing number
- 4 of insured; and
- 5 WHEREAS, According to a study by the Robert Graham Center
- 6 in 2013, it was estimated that the state would need 8,243 more

1 primary care physicians by 2030 – a 32 percent increase of its
2 current workforce; and

3 WHEREAS, Osteopathic physicians are one of the fastest
4 growing segments of health care professionals in the United States.
5 By 2016, more than 100,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) are
6 expected to be in active medical practice; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 60 percent of practicing DOs
8 specialize in primary care fields such as family medicine, internal
9 medicine, and pediatrics and many DOs fill a critical need by
10 practicing in rural and other medically underserved areas; and

11 WHEREAS, Osteopathic (DO) and allopathic (MD) residency
12 programs will soon be overseen by a single unified graduate
13 medical education accrediting body; and

14 WHEREAS, Quality medical training for DO and MD students
15 is critical to their success as fully trained and licensed physicians;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Many public and private institutions have
18 historically provided equal access to the application process for
19 their medical training programs by all students and physicians,
20 and have trained exemplary DO and MD students by choosing
21 those candidates who best suit their programs; and

22 WHEREAS, Section 2064.2 of the Business and Professions
23 Code states that no medical school or clinical training program
24 shall deny access to elective clerkships or preceptorships in any
25 medical school or clinical training program in this state solely on
26 the basis that a student is enrolled in an osteopathic medical school;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Section 2453 of the Business and Professions Code
29 states that it is the policy of the state that holders of MD degrees
30 and DO degrees shall be accorded equal professional status and
31 privileges as licensed physicians and surgeons; now, therefore, be
32 it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature urges both private and
35 public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal
36 access to DO and MD students to apply to training programs while
37 still maintaining the integrity and competitiveness of their
38 application process and the need to first serve enrolled students;
39 and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges osteopathic medical
2 schools, allopathic medical schools, and their training institutions
3 to build on current successes of working toward greater
4 collaboration and coordination of education and training for
5 California's future physicians; and be it further

6 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges efforts by training
7 institutions and allopathic and osteopathic medical schools to work
8 toward greater acceptance and integration of DO and MD students
9 in their medical training programs; and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
11 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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